**The Issue of Race in the United States**

SR-953 Research for 21st Century Scholarship

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**Assignment #4 – Essay**

**1. Write a summary for each of your resources (see Assignment #2 instructions for**

**specifications). Use a Level 1 heading at the beginning of each summary. Level 2**

**and Level 3 headings are optional.**

**a. Include the following for each book from Assignment #2 (A minimum of two**

**books (minimum of one published in the last five years) relevant to your chosen**

**topic.)**

**• a short biography of the author and his or her credentials, and**

**• your assessment of each book’s (a) readability, (b) presentation of the**

**subject, and (c) relevance to your chosen topic.**

**b. Include the following for each journal article from Assignment #2 (A minimum of five**

**primary research journal articles relevant to your chosen topic; four articles must**

**be less than five years old.)**

**• the title, year, and author(s) of the research;**

**• the basic categories in the literature review section;**

**• a brief description of the research type and methods;**

**• a brief description of the population being studied and how the**

**participants were selected for the research; and**

**• a brief description of the findings and conclusions.**

**Books**

Davis, D.W., & Wilson, C.W. (2021). *Racial Resentment in the Political Mind. University of Chicago Press*.

**Author Biography and Credentials**

D.W. Davis is an accomplished political scientist whose research interests include race and ethnicity in American politics. His research often focuses on how race contributes to electoral behavior and policy preferences. As for C.W. Wilson, he is a sociologist who works in the field of social movements and race relations. His work focuses on the framework that underpins the occurrence of race and the effects that it has on social and political conduct. Davis and Wilson have a combined experience that questions and analyzes race, politics, and society, making them experts in their fields. Their combination gives a comprehensive view of how racial resentment has been depicted in the United States of America's political realm.

**Assessment**

'Racial Resentment in the Political Mind' is ideal in its blend of readability because it presents details and analyses in an easy-to-understand manner for diverse readers – academic or general. Davis and Wilson employ real-life examples from US history and more recent cases to better understand the perpetual complex and serious race issues within the political realm. Not only does it bring out the continuum in history, but it also speaks about contemporary race issues in politics. For this reason, the book is valuable and meaningful for students and scholars in political science, sociology, and other related disciplines because it contributes to understanding how prejudice impacts policy-making and administration in the United States.

Pollock, A. (2021). *Sickening: Anti-black racism and health disparities in the United States*. University of Minnesota Press.

**Author Biography and Credentials**

Anne Pollock is a well-published academic in the field of medical sociology with special interests in health justice and race/gender. She is an academic at a well-known institution and lectures on health policy, public health, and health inequalities. Building on this framework, Pollock's research focuses on how structural dynamics affect health disparity amongst undeserving populations, particularly the Black community. She is a prolific writer with a published work that has offered valuable insights into debates about health disparity and policy changes.

**Assessment**

"Sickening: Anti-black Racism and Health Disparities in the United States is a well-written and easy-to-understand narrative that provides several nuanced reflections on race and health despite no prior specific professional endeavor in the medical field. In constructing a comprehensive overview of racism and how it affects the health of blacks, the author employs case studies backed by empirical research that elaborately detail racism as a systematic issue that shapes the lives of African Americans and their health status in equal measure. Therefore, this book is valuable and crucial to students, policymakers, and public health and social sciences professionals as it underlines structural barriers and provides a ground for knowledge for those planning to implement health equity.

**The Journal Article**

Banaji, M. R., Fiske, S. T., & Massey, D. S. (2021). Systemic racism: Individuals and interactions, institutions, and Society. *Cognitive Research: Principles and Implications*, *6*(1). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s41235-021-00349-3>

**Title/Year/Authors**

Systemic racism: Individuals and interactions, institutions, and Society (2021) by M.R. Banaji, S.T. Fiske, & D.S. Massey.

**Literature Review Categories**

The article provides definitions of systemic racism, its evolution in history, and its contemporary forms in multiple systems.

**Methodology**

The study adopted a review design that aims to compile an inclusive literature review to synthesize research studies on systemic racism extensively.

**Sampling and Sample**

The research does not sample a particular population but highlights the generic problem with different races/ethnicities in the United States.

**Conclusions**

The role of systemic racism in the experiences of Black Americans In the overview, the roles of racism on historical, institutional, and individual/personal levels are various and interconnected. It also examines how it affects structures in a society depending on individual bias and perpetuates it through interactions. The paper emphasizes and appeals for more focus and analysis in the field of cognitive sciences regarding these intricate interactions.

Chavis, L. (2024). Patrick L. Mason: The Economics of Structural Racism: Stratification Economics and US Labor Markets. *Journal of Economics, Race, and Policy*, *7*(2), 137–139. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s41996-024-00137-3>

**Title/Year/Authors**

Patrick L. Mason: The Economics of Structural Racism: Stratification Economics and US Labor Markets (2024) by Larry Chavis.

**Literature Review Categories**

The review gives information in great detail on what system racism is and the structures of racism in the economic history of the United States, particularly blacks' subjugation in financial affairs.

**Research Type and Methods**

This involves discussing the general American labor market with a special focus on African American labor and their socio-economic status during the historical phases of American capitalism.

**Population and Selection**

The review outlines the American labor market's general structure and the African American people's position as workers throughout different phases of American capitalism.

**Findings and Conclusions**

The review summarizes the key points of Mason's work, focusing on the author's claim that race is a structural component of the American economy. It portrays how the policies and economic systems that were shaped through past and present have wronged African Americans and other people of color. The book critiques normative economic frameworks that failed to consider the issue of race by proposing a stratification economics framework to tackle the problems arising from it.

Breathett, K. K., Spatz, E. S., & Nallamothu, B. K. (2021). Reporting of race and ethnicity in medical and scientific journals. *JAMA*, *326*(7), 673. <https://doi.org/10.1001/jama.2021.9271>

**Title/Year/Authors**

Reporting of Race and Ethnicity in Medical and Scientific Journals (2021) by Khadijah Breathett, MD, MS, Erica S. Spatz, MD, MHS, Brahmajee K. Nallamothu, MD, MPH.

**Literature Review Categories**

The paper focuses on the best practices of race and ethnicity in medical research and how race is a social construct rather than a biological factor.

**Research Type and Methods**

It is an editorial piece that addresses how race and ethnicity are portrayed in medical and scientific works and provides recommendations on their coverage.

**Population and Selection**

This article aims to reach the academic, research, and practice audience, which includes researchers, editors, and policymakers in the medical and scientific sectors.

**Findings and Conclusions**

The authors highlight the need for a more constructive approach to race in medical literature and practice where such factors as racism and social determinants should be given consideration rather than genetic or biological aspects of race. Some have expressed concerns that the existing practices contribute to the reinforcement of racism and thus recommend the transformation of reporting race and ethnicity in published papers.

Hinton, E., & Cook, D. (2021). The mass criminalization of Black Americans: A historical overview. *Annual Review of Criminology*, *4*(1), 261–286. <https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev-criminol-060520-033306>

**Title/Year/Authors**

The Mass Criminalization of Black Americans: A Historical Overview (2021) by Elizabeth Hinton and DeAnza Cook.

**Literature Review Categories**

The article offers an interdisciplinary review of Black people's historical criminalization and imprisonment in the United States based on new historiographical contributions to American carceral studies.

**Research Type and Methods**

This paper integrates historical description with an overview of legal and sociopolitical trends, focusing on criminal law, policing, and imprisonment from colonial times to the present.

**Population and Selection**

The focus is on Black Americans, examining state and legislative measures intended to govern and police mostly Black societies.

**Findings and Conclusions**

According to the review, mass incarceration and punitive policies aimed at black people are anchored in historical racism and social control. These systemic practices can be considered fundamental for designing crime-control initiatives and mass incarceration in the United States and provide valuable insights for continuous change in criminological studies and other related disciplines.

Jewell, J.O., Maynes, M. J., Lieberman, R. C., & Emigh, R.J. (2024). *Virtual issues: Race in the United States in Social Science History. Social Science History*, 48(3), 593-600. <https://doi.org/10.1017/ssh.2024.2>

**Title/Year/Authors**

Virtual Issue: Race in the United States in Social Science History (2024) by Joseph O. Jewell, Mary Jo Maynes, Robert C. Lieberman, and Rebecca Jean Emigh.

**Literature Review Categories**

The focus of the virtual issue is an introduction and contemporary analysis of race in the United States concerning concepts including race and health, race and labor, race and social policy, and race and urban landscape.

**Research Type and Methods**

This sample compilation of scholarly articles presents significant diversity in methodology and disciplinary backgrounds in the history of social sciences.

**Population and Selection**

The focus is on different racialized populations in the USA, with attention paid to the historical dimension of race as a significant determinant of social relations.

**Findings and Conclusions**

The selected articles establish the social construction of race in America and how it complicates topics such as immigration, poverty, or health and welfare policies. It presents current and significant prospects paramount to understanding the cultural-political history of race in America.

O'Brien, R., Neman, T., Seltzer, N., Evans, L., & Venkataramani, A. (2020). Structural racism, economic opportunity, and racial health disparities: Evidence from US counties. *SSM - Population Health*, *11*, 100564. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssmph.2020.100564>

**Title/Year/Authors**

Structural Racism, Economic Opportunity, and Racial Health Disparities: Evidence from US Counties (2020) by Rourke O'Brien, Tiffany Neman, Nathan Seltzer, Linnea Evans, Atheendar Venkataramani.

**Literature Review Categories**

This paper aims to investigate the effect of structural racism by focusing on the economic factors in terms of opportunity on the racial differences in health across the counties of the United States.

**Research Type and Methods**

The authors define the concept of the 'racial opportunity gap' as a variable capturing structure of racism and investigate how such structures relate to disparities in health among different races. To achieve the objective of this analysis, the research relies on intergenerational economic mobility data and health data at the county level.

**Population and Selection**

The study encompasses analyzing cross-sectional population characteristics of the United States, as well as distinctive economic and health disparities of black and white people.

**Findings and Conclusions**

The results also reveal a positive relationship between the racial opportunity gap and the gaps in mortality rates by race across the counties. Increased opportunity gaps translate to increased structural racism and, therefore, increased health disparities among the black population. The research shows that institutionalized racism in the built environment is key to creating these differences, not just poverty.

Riley, E. Y., & Peterson, C. (2019). Examining the impact of black political representation on white racial attitudes in majority black congressional districts. *Journal of Black Studies*, *50*(7), 611–631. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0021934719871179>

**Title/Year/Authors**

Examining the Impact of Black Political Representation on White Racial Attitudes in Majority Black Congressional Districts (2019) by E.Y. Riley and C. Peterson.

**Literature Review Categories**

The article analyses the correlation between race/ethnicity, politics, and social beliefs, emphasizing how political representation affects white ethnicity amongst black-dominated regions.

**Research Type and Methods**

This study uses electoral and census data and survey and interview data to gauge shifts in racial perceptions.

**Population and Selection**

The study involves white citizens in majority-black congressional districts in the United States to understand their perspectives and views on black political figures.

**Findings and Conclusions**

Riley and Peterson further note that they don't have adequate evidence to assert that more representation of black politicians automatically enhances white racial attitudes. However, these highlights differ depending on the demography of a given area, voting records, and the degree of interaction between legislators and their electorates. According to the study, while black political representation may serve as a threat to stereotyping and bring about positive changes to the racial prejudice and racism found in society, this is derailed by unrelenting societal prejudices that act as a hindrance to change.

Triguero, R.M. (2024*). Color-blind Ethnocentrism: Racialized Imagined Communities in Western Europe and the United States*. (Doctoral Dissertation). Columbia University. <https://doi.org/10.7916/a02p-p022>

**Title/Year/Author**

Color-blind Ethnocentrism: Racialized Imagined Communities in Western Europe and the United States (2024) by R.M. Triguero.

**Literature Review Categories**

This doctoral dissertation investigates color-blind ethnocentrism, testing how it contributes to developing racialized imagined communities in Western Europe and the United States.

**Research Type and Methods**

Triguero thus employs a comparative method, and a combination of sociological theory and ethnography conducted across several countries in Western Europe and the USA. The study merges qualitative interviews, observational data, and survey data to investigate colorblindness in various sociopolitical frames.

**Population and Selection**

The setting of the study is based on different segments of the population of selected Western European countries and the United States; the research interest is concerned with the rates and impact of colorblindness regarding race and ethnicity.

**Findings and Conclusions**

Triguero affirms that color-blind ethnocentrism conceals prejudice and fuels the perpetuation of racism and racism. It reveals how these ideologies shape processes of creating imagined communities, which, in their seeming multiculturalism, perpetrate raced exclusion. According to Triguero, it is crucial to consider such overlooked subcurrents to build societies with a more solid foundation.

**References**

Banaji, M. R., Fiske, S. T., & Massey, D. S. (2021). Systemic racism: Individuals and interactions, institutions, and Society. *Cognitive Research: Principles and Implications*, *6*(1). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s41235-021-00349-3>

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